

MAY 11 2007

Appl. No. 10/731,333
Docket No. 9133M
Amdt. dated May 11, 2007
Reply to Office Action mailed on December 11, 2006
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for inhibiting scale, film and/or spot formation on a surface treated with an aqueous solution containing calcium and/or magnesium ions, the method comprising contacting the surface with a wash medium comprising the aqueous solution and a composition containing a functionalized material, wherein the functionalized material is derived from non-ethylenic based or vinyl based polymers or oligomers, said functionalized material being selected from the group consisting of lignins, ~~polyvinylalcohols~~, polyaspartates[[,]] and mixtures thereof, wherein said functionalized material comprises both sulfonate moieties and carboxylate moieties and the functionalized material satisfies Test Protocol I.

2 - 3. (Cancelled)

4. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the functionalized material has a molar ratio of sulfonate moieties to carboxylate moieties ranging from about 1:30 to about 30:1.

5. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 4 wherein the functionalized material has a molar ratio of sulfonate moieties to carboxylate moieties ranging from about 1:10 to about 10:1.

6. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 1 wherein the functionalized material further comprises a nonionic functional moiety selected from the group consisting of alkoxy moieties, alkyl moieties, ester moieties and mixtures thereof.

7. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 6 wherein the functionalized material has a molar ratio of sum of sulfonate and carboxylate moieties to nonionic moieties ranging from about 1:20 to about 20:1.

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8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A composition for inhibiting scale, film and/or spot formation on a surface treated with an aqueous solution containing calcium and/or magnesium ions, the composition comprising:

- a) a functionalized material produced by a process comprising functionalizing with both carboxylate and sulfonate moieties a non-ethylenic based material or a vinyl based material selected from the group consisting of lignins, ~~polyvinylalcohols~~, polyaspartates[[.]] and mixtures thereof such that the functionalized material satisfies the Test Protocol I;
- b) a builder; and
- c) one or more adjunct ingredients.

10 - 11. (Cancelled)

12. (previously presented) The composition according to Claim 9 wherein the functionalized material has a molar ratio of sulfonate moieties to carboxylate moieties ranging from about 1:30 to about 30:1.

13. (previously presented) The composition according to Claim 12 wherein the functionalized material has a molar ratio of sulfonate moieties to carboxylate moieties ranging from about 1:10 to about 10:1.

14. (previously presented) The composition according to Claim 12 wherein the functionalized material further comprises a nonionic functional moiety selected from the group consisting of alkoxy moieties, alkyl moieties, ester moieties and mixtures thereof.

15. (previously presented) The composition according to Claim 14 wherein the functionalized material has a molar ratio of sum of sulfonate and carboxylate moieties to nonionic moieties ranging from about 1:20 to about 20:1.

16. (Cancelled)

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17. (Original) The composition according to Claim 9 wherein the composition is an automatic dishwashing composition or a fabric care composition.

18. (previously presented) The composition according to Claim 9 wherein the adjunct ingredient comprises an ingredient selected from the group consisting of: builders, enzymes, bleaches, anti-foaming agents, alkalinity agents, and mixtures thereof.

19. (Cancelled)